

Diversity Architects

Commercial^{.3}

Diversity Architects

With offices in London and Athens, Diversity has a wide-ranging portfolio of projects, from private residences to hotels, housing complexes and commercial spaces. Our award-winning body of work demonstrates our ability to handle challenging briefs in a variety of locations and contexts. We believe that architecture should be innovative, collaborative and environmentally sensitive. We can offer turn-key solutions from initial concept to custom-furnished interiors, or undertake specific elements of a project, depending on our clients' needs. We treat every client as an individual and respect that every project is unique.

In 2009, Diversity was included in the Wallpaper* Architects Directory of the world's leading young architecture practices.

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Commercial Projects

- Project **3.1 Alsity Marina**
- Selected **3.2 Printing Press**
- 3.3 DESTE Foundation Entrance**
- Ongoing **3.4 Iasonos Office Building**
- 3.5 IT Cafe**

Alsity Marina^{3.1}

Alsity Marina

with Kokkinou + Kourkoulas architects

International competition for the development and long-term use of the Olympic Sailing Centre, Ag. Kosmas, Athens, 1st prize 2006 (GR)

This marina is located in the coastal suburb of Agios Kosmas, Athens. The aim was to reconfigure the relationship between the city and its coastline by transforming a 'dead' marina into a dynamic urban space that serves multiple uses (including cinemas, cafes, restaurants, a market, and theme park).

In order to create a strong identity for the site, which is visible both from land and sea, the shopping centre was designed as a wave. Its undulating rooftop runs alongside the coastal highway, signalling the marina's presence to the city, while its glass front faces the sea - an arresting image that attracts passing boats. The roof doubles as a walkway, so the whole site becomes an extension of the landscape.

Location: Agios Kosmas, Athens, Greece

Client: Seirios

Project Status: Unbuilt



To accentuate its accessibility, the concept for the retail complex was based on an open-air market, or Agora, rather than a closed shopping mall. By reducing optical barriers and increasing points of entry, the built environment becomes a transitional space connecting the city and the sea. This is achieved by carving out deep access routes, such as a ramp that leads from the exhibition spaces to the waterfront promenade. The vertical sections between the cafes also create multiple visual connections and access points.





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Printing Press^{3.2}

Printing Press

This printing press is situated in an industrial park, bordered by a ring road and railway tracks. The ground plan is a deliberately simple square shape, which facilitates the operation of the production line. Materials for the facade were chosen to emphasise the building's use and to reflect its location at a busy crossroads.

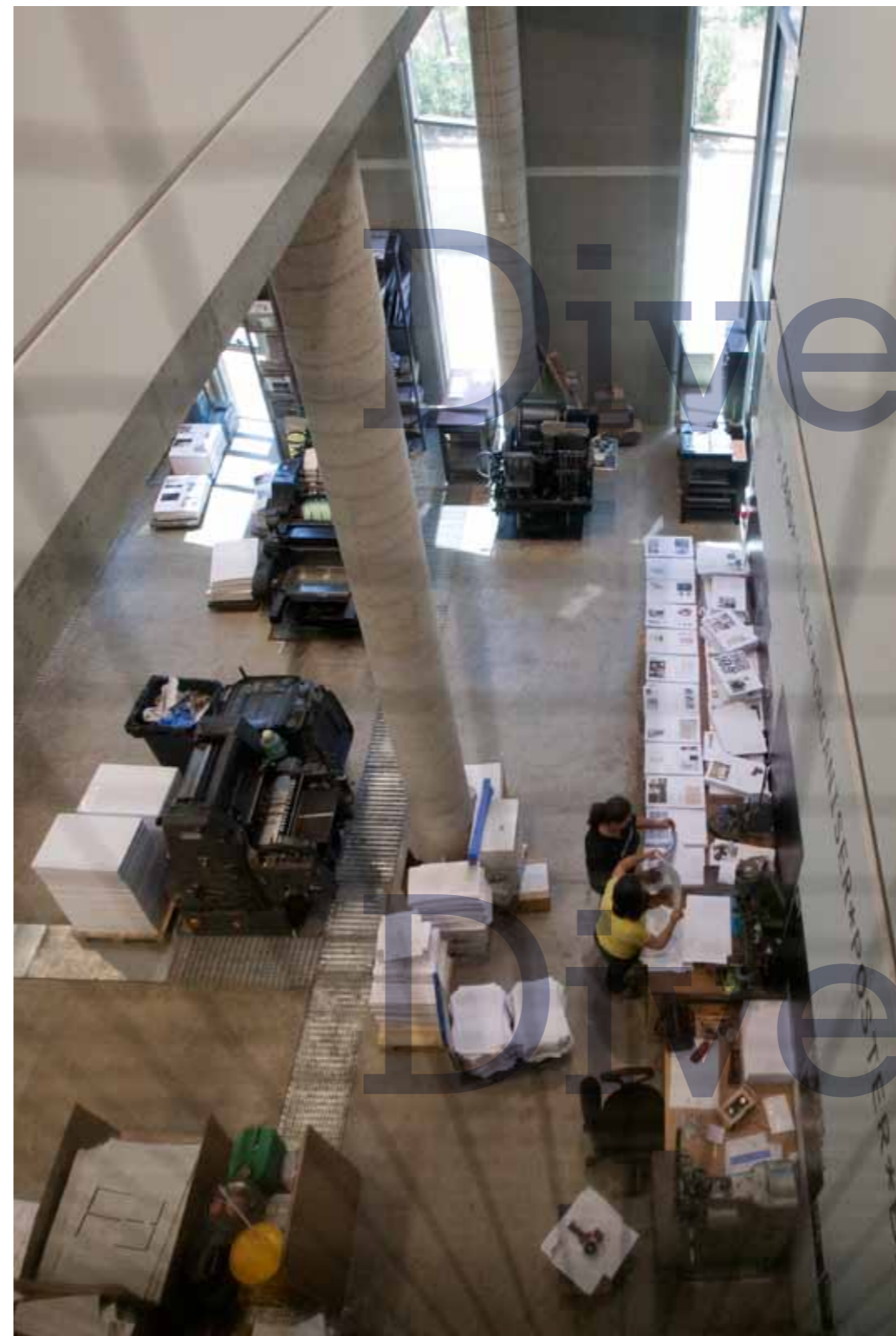
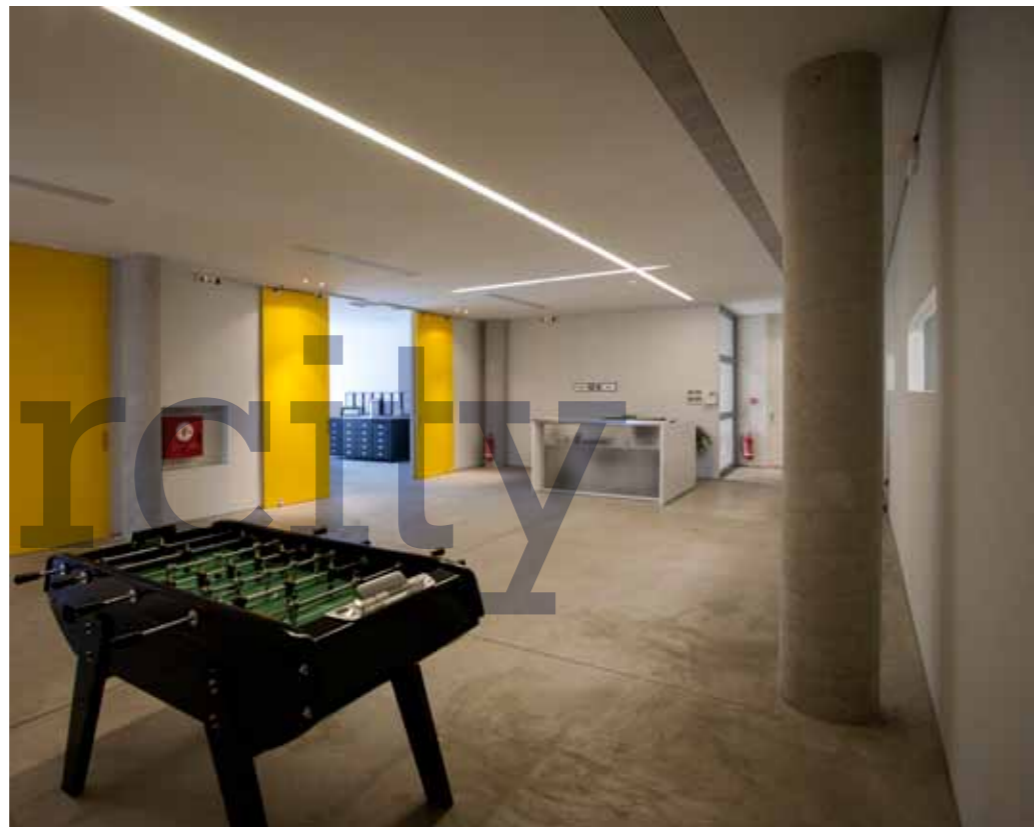
Location: Attica, Greece
Client: Kontourousis Bros
Project Status: Complete, 2009
Photos: Cathy Cunliffe





The south and east exterior walls are made of printed aluminium panels and transparent glass shutters, alternated in vertical sections across the full height of the building. These slanted 'fins' allow glimpses of the interior and can filter or flood the interiors with light, according to the needs of the workers inside.





rcity

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DESTE Foundation

Entrance^{3.3}

DESTE Foundation Entrance

The DESTE Foundation for Contemporary Art is home to the most important private collection of modern art in Greece. Playing with preconceived ideas about how we relate to art, the entrance reconfigures the relationship between the 'viewer' and the 'exhibit'. A giant crate - identical to those used for the transportation of artworks - is placed outside the building. Thanks to its distorted scale, the crate is transformed from a piece of packaging into a threshold which leads into a 'container' for culture. The transition is articulated upon the moment of entry, when the visitor becomes an exhibit in a glassdisplay case.

Location: Athens, Greece
Client: DESTE Foundation
Project Status: Complete, 2007
Photos: Charalambos Louizidis & Katerina Glinou





Iasonos Office Building^{3.4}

Iasonos Office Building



This five-storey office building is located in Keramikos, a district of downtown Athens undergoing rapid regeneration. The design absorbs the intense activity in the surrounding area and takes advantage of the unique sightlines of two Athenian landmarks – the Acropolis and Lycabettus Hill – by introducing a façade of U-channel glass.

Location: Iasonos street, Athens, Greece
Client: Rogordeal
Project Status: Final design



The façade is punctuated by rotating mirrored incisions that bring snapshots of the city into the building and vice versa. As the image of the Parthenon appears in the top floor, passers-by can catch a glimpse of life inside the building. A red box containing all the secondary functions is attached to the rear of each floor. Combined with the mirrors on the building's blind side, this creates a series of brilliant illusions.

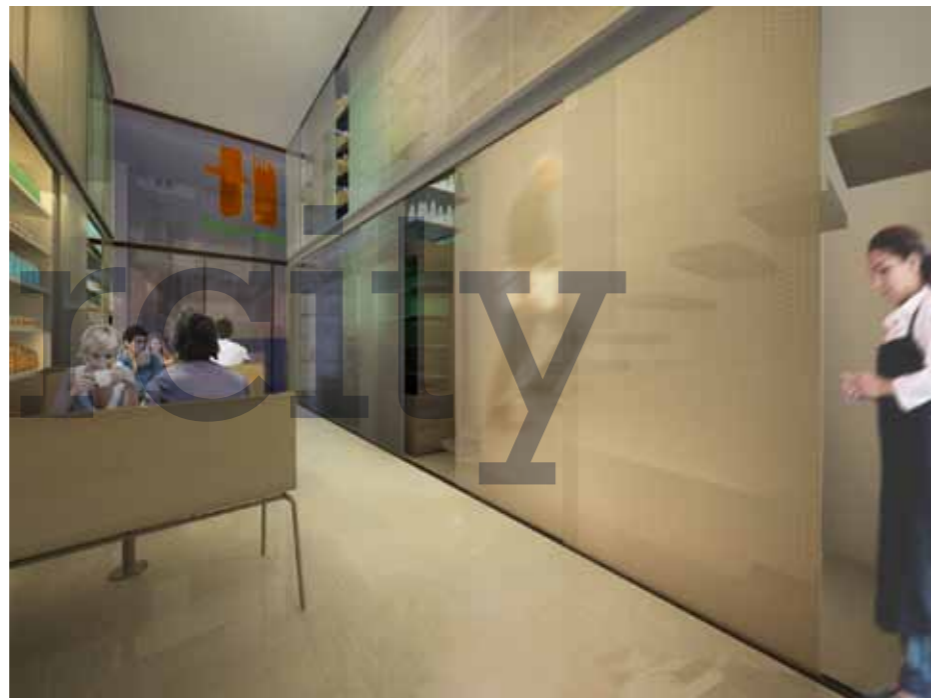
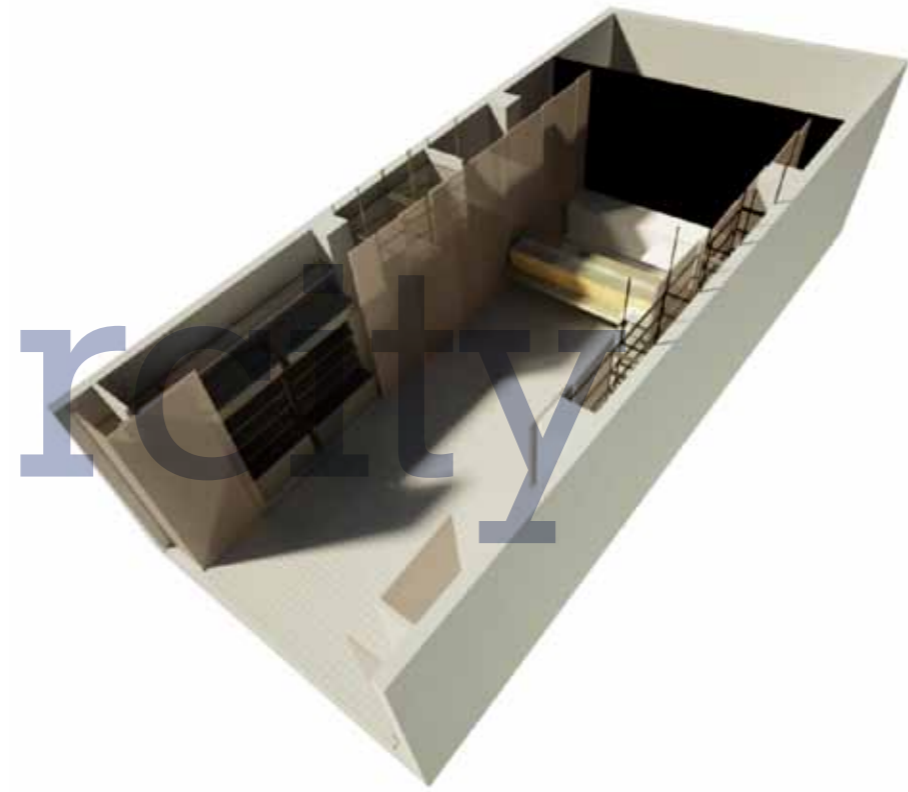


IT Cafe^{3.5}

IT Cafe

with Katerina Kourkoula

The IT cafe is uniquely designed so that as shelves empty of produce during the course of the day, screens can be pulled over unsightly empty fridge units and shelves. Creating this detailed design slowly alters the feel and function of the cafe, creating more space for seating areas and relaxation as the day continues.



Location: Kolonaki, Athens
Client: IT
Project Status: 2009-to date

Archive



2009-to date

IT Cafe, Skoufa Street, Kolonaki, Athens
with Katerina Kourkoula
Project



2007-to date

Iasonos Office Building, Iasonos Street, Athens, Greece
Final design



2007-2009

Printing Press, Attica, Greece
Completed



2008

Gentworth Financial, Athens
Completed



2007

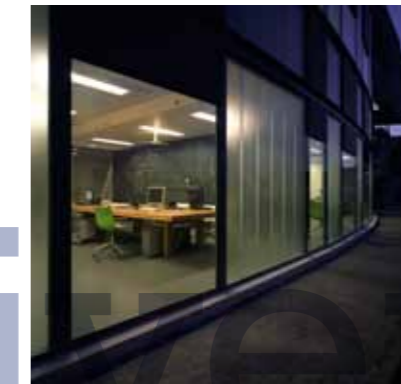
DESTE Foundation Entrance, Athens, Greece
Completed



2005-2007

Alsity Marina, Agios Kosmas, Athens, Greece
with Kokkinou & Kourkoulas architects
Project

International competition for the development and long-term use of the Olympic Sailing Centre, Ag. Kosmas, Athens, 1st prize 2006 (GR)



2005-2006

Big Issue Office Building, Gerakas, Athens
Completed

Divercity Partners

Nikolas Travasaros

Nikolas is a founding partner of Divercity (Athens and London). He studied architecture at the National Technical University of Athens (1999) and received a Master of Architecture from the Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL (2000).

As well as managing Divercity’s growing team of architects, as Head of Design Nikolas leads the design process on all the practice’s projects. He oversees each project from initial design to completion of construction.

Nikolas divides his time between practicing and teaching architecture in Athens and London. Since 2007, he has been teaching architectural design at the Bartlett School of Architecture. Prior to that, he taught architectural and interior design at the University of Patra, Greece (2002-2007).

He has curated exhibitions and taken part in several national and international architectural competitions (four 1st prizes, one commendation).

Since 2010, Nikolas is a RIBA chartered architect.

Christina Achtypi

Christina is a partner at Divercity (London). She studied architecture at the National Technical University of Athens (2005) and received a Master of Architecture from the Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL (2009).

Christina joined Divercity in 2005. As a Project Architect, she plays a central role in the design process as well as managing projects from initial design to completion of construction.

Christina has taken part in international architectural competitions (one 2nd prize, one distinction).

In 2008, she was co-curator of ‘Athens by Sound’, the national participation of Greece at the 11th International Venice Biennale of Architecture, ‘Out there - Architecture Beyond Building’. Her projects were also exhibited at the 4th European Biennale of Landscape Architecture in Barcelona (2006) and the 1st Biennale of Architecture in Rotterdam (2003).

Since 2010, Christina is a RIBA chartered architect.

Christos Dimitroukas

Christos is a partner at Divercity (Athens). Christos studied Civil Engineering at the Technological Educational Institution of Piraeus (1997).

As Head of Construction at Divercity (Athens) since 2008, he is in charge of the supervision and construction management of all our projects.

From 2000 to 2005, he was Construction Engineer during the building of the Rio-Antirrio Bridge, the world’s longest cable-stayed suspension bridge.

Dimitris Travasaros

Dimitris is a partner of Divercity (Athens). He completed a BA in Architecture at the London South Bank University in 2000, followed by a Postgraduate Diploma in Architecture (with distinction).

As a Project Architect, Dimitris plays a central role in the design process as well as managing projects from initial design to completion of construction. He works closely with our Athens and London offices.

Dimitris has taken part in numerous architectural competitions (one 1st Prize). His ‘Invisible Hotel’ project has been exhibited and published extensively in Greece and abroad.

Demetra Karabelia

Demetra founded Divercity (Athens) with Nikolas Travasaros in 2004 and was a partner until 2010. She studied architecture at the National Technical University of Athens (1998) and received a Master of Architecture from the National Technical University of Athens (2004).

As a Project Architect, she plays a central role in the design process as well as managing projects from initial design to completion of construction.

Team

Takis Travasaros, architect

Brian Houghton, architect

Amelia Humber, studio manager

Apostolia Kokkini, architect

Athina Kokla, architect

Katerina Koligianni, architect

Dimosthenis Lappas, architect

Katerina Linga, studio manager

Angelina Manitsa, architect

Kaiti Papapavlou, architect

Sandy Papastavropoulou, architect

Maria Sakara, studio manager

Sophia Vantaraki, space consultant

Dimitra Argyrou	Katerina Lampri
Marios Bakoulias	Terpsichori (Eri) Latsi
Sampson Charitonidis	Iro Liatsou
Angeliki Evripioti	Anno Lingens
Vivi Gritsoni	Martha Markopoulou
Danielle Hodgson	Yannis Papadopoulos
Nektarios Karamolegkos	Konstantinos Petrakos
Maritina Keleri	Goetz Schrader
Nadia Krikou	Elena Stavraki

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